Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Regarding the questions of the Member for Pallivirutti, they were received from the Member on the 28th of January, 1928. They were despatched from this office to the Huzur Office on the 3rd of February 1928.

President.—He is right in saying that he sent his questions a month ago, if it was on the 28th of January. They were despatched to the Huzur Office on the 3rd of February, and you must have received them then. But you said that you received them only 8 or 9 days ago.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I must look into the file. I said so far as I remember they were received 8 or 9 days ago. I recollect the last batch of questions was received only late, and I thought they were from the Member for Pallivirutti.

President.—We opened our session on the 27th of February. Your questions were received in the Council Office on the 28th of January, and the Huzur Office might have received them on the 3rd of February only. So you were not quite right in saying that you sent in your questions more than a month ago.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The last batch of questions was received only a week ago. So I said I received the questions 8 or 9 days ago. That was my impression.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I rise on a point of order. Under S. O. No. 6, to-day being a non-official day, preference should be given to non-official business.

President.—Was it not considered before the agenda was prepared? I suppose you will have time after it.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Diwan has the power to alter the allotment of days.

President.—It is a non-official day, and an alteration has been made on the allotment of time. We have some official business. So the question is whether non-official business should have precedence. The Diwan can change the allotment of business for any day only.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—We want only five minutes. Half a day or 5 minutes is part of a day; and so the Diwan can change the allotment of business.

President.—I think we will have enough time after the business is over.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—It would not take a long time. I suppose a couple of minutes would be sufficient.

President.—Is there any objection that the Diwan cannot alter the business in a non-official day?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The Diwan has got power. If an order is passed, there is no objection.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—The three Bills fixed for the third reading will have precedence over the non-official business of the day.

The Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure be taken up and passed by the House.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

(*The motion was put and carried.*)

The Bill to amend the Cochin Chief Court Regulation.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Chief Court Regulation as amended be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

(*The motion was carried.*)

The Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

(*The motion that the Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation be passed by this House was carried.*)

Cochin Legislative Council Member's Exemption Bill.

President.—The next item of business is Mr. Kunjunni Raja's Bill.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I beg to introduce the 'Cochin Legislative Council Member's Exemption Bill.'

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I second it.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—In the objects and reasons I have explained the reasons for introducing this Bill. Freedom of speech and freedom from arrest are two of the essential requisites for the conduct of self-governing institutions. The Bill as originally drafted by me included a section giving freedom of speech to the Members. That section is to the effect that 'no person shall be liable to any Proceedings in any court in the State by reason of his speech or vote in the Cochin Legislative Council, or by reason of anything contained in any official report of the Proceedings of the Council. The Secretary to the Council raised objection on the ground that that Bill appeared objectionable under section 11(n) and 18 of the Council Regulation read with Rules 8 (c), 25 (4) and 35 (c), to which an exhaustive reply was sent by me, and by the ruling of the President, which does not seem to be satisfactory to me, that section, after a good deal of correspondence between the Secretary to the Council and myself, had to be dropped. The President's ruling that the section infringes upon the provisions of the Rules of the Legislative Council is final, and since we have to bow to that ruling, that section was dropped. Subsequently the Bill

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly